

Recollection of endemic species *Barleria stocksii* T. Anderson (Acanthaceae) in Karnataka State, India, after 140 years

Sidanand Vitthal Kambhar^{1,2*} Nagabhushan Siddappa Harihar¹ and Kotresha Shekharppa Katrahalli¹

¹ Karnatak University Constituent College, Karnatak Science College, Department of Botany, Floristic and Taxonomy Laboratory. Dharwad, Karnataka. 580 001, India.

² Present address; Karnatak State Woman's University, Jnanashakti, Torvi campus, Department of Botany, Bijapur, Karnataka. 586109, India.

* Corresponding author. E-mail: sidanand.kambhar@gmail.com

ABSTRACT: *Barleria stocksii* T. Anderson (Acanthaceae) is recollected from Kappat hills, Gadag district, Karnataka, after a gap of more than 140 year. A detailed description and photographs are provided.

While inventorizing the flora of Gadag district, Karnataka, India, the authors collected an endemic species of Acanthaceae, *Barleria stocksii* T. Anderson (Ahmedullah and Nayar 1987; Nayar 1996) at Chik Vaddati and from the Bidnahal area of the Kappat hills, Gadag district of Karnataka State. Critical examination and reference to relevant taxonomic literature (Gamble 1924; Vijaya Sankar *et al.* 2005; Shendage and Yadav 2010) indicated that this taxon has not been reported after Anderson in Karnataka. Previously it had been collected at Bababudan hills, in Chikmagalur district, Karnataka and the type specimens were collected by Stocks and described by Anderson (1867). Hence, the present collection of this species bridges a gap of more than 140 years. This species can easily be distinguished by its sessile leaves. A detailed description and photographs (Figure. 1) of this specimen is provided.

Barleria stocksii T. Anderson J. Linn. Soc. Bot. 9:493. 1867; Clarke in Hooker, Fl. Brit. India 4:489. 1885; Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras 2:743. 1924.

Herbs, unarmed, with sparse hairs, to 60cm high. Leaves 3-5 x 1.8-3.5cm, sessile, elliptic-ovate, acute, ciliate, glabrous, rounded base. Flowers 1-3, on top of axillary/terminal peduncles, bracts equaling outer calyx in length, 1.2-1.8cm long, ciliate margin, lanceolate, acute; calyx lobes 4, outer sepals hairy at midrib and ciliate margins, obovate-oblong, acuminate, opposite sepal slightly narrower, acute, 2 fid, inner sepals lanceolate, acute, 0.6-0.8cm; corolla white, tube to 3cm long, cylindric basally, yellowish, lobes elliptic-oblong, acute; capsule to 2cm long, obovoid, pointed at apex, glabrous; seeds 2, rounded, densely silky hairy.

Flowering and Fruiting: July-December

Habitat: Dry deciduous forests above 600m altitude.

Distribution: Endemic to Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

Specimen examined: INDIA, Karnataka, Gadag district, Chik Vaddatti and Bidnahal, Kappat hills, S.V. Kambhar 14 July 2009, SVK 0537, 0837.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: We thank to University Grants Commission, New Delhi for providing financial assistance; also thankful to Dr. Shankar M. Shendage, Department of Botany, Abasaheb Marathe Arts and New Commerce Science College, Rajapur, Ratnagiri, Maharashtra for his opinion on the identity of the species.



FIGURE 1. *Barleria stocksii* T. Anderson: a. Habitat; b. Habit; c. Flower close-up view.

LITERATURE CITED

- Ahmedullah, M. and M.P. Nayar 1987. *Endemic Plants of the Indian region*. Calcutta: Botanical Survey of India. 147 pp.
Anderson, T. 1867. An enumeration of the Indian species of Acanthaceae. *Journal of Linnaean Society* 9: 425-454.
Gamble, J.S. 1924. *The Flora of Presidency of Madras* 2. Calcutta: Botanical Survey of India. 743 pp.
Nayar, M.P. 1996. *Hotspots of Endemic Plants of India, Nepal and Bhutan*. Thiruvananthapuram: Tropical Botanical Garden and Research Institute. 204 pp.
Shendage, S.M. and S.R. Yadav 2010. Revision of the Genus *Barleria* (Acanthaceae) in India. *Rheedea* 20(2): 81-230.
Vijaya Sankar, R., Ravikumar, R. and N.M. Ganesh Babu 2005. On the collection of a Peninsular Endemic, *Barleria stocksii* (Acanthaceae), after a century. *Zoo's Print* 20: 1820.

RECEIVED: March 2012

ACCEPTED: March 2014

PUBLISHED ONLINE: May 2014

EDITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY: Paul A. Egan